



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

July 12, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Executive Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT S. 625 and H.R. 1108, FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT (ITEM NO. 6, AGENDA OF JULY 17, 2007)

Item No. 6 on the July 17, 2007 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, which instructs that five-signature letters be sent to the County's Congressional delegation supporting S. 625 (Kennedy, D-MA) and H.R. 1108 (Waxman, D-CA), the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, and that the County's Washington, D.C. advocates pursue the County's position on these bills.

S. 625 and H.R. 1108 are identical bipartisan bills, which would grant the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the authority to regulate the manufacture, marketing, and distribution of tobacco products. Its regulatory authority over tobacco products would include the power to:

- Restrict advertising and promotion of tobacco products, including advertising that targets children or misleads consumers;
- Ban the sale of tobacco to children under age 18 and limit the sale of cigarettes to face-to-face transactions in which the age of purchasers can be verified by identification;

- Implement 1996 regulations aimed at curbing tobacco use by youth which never were implemented due to litigation;
- Provide stronger and more explicit warning labels on all cigarette and smokeless tobacco packages and print advertisements;
- Prevent tobacco industry misrepresentations on the hazards of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco;
- Order the reduction or removal of hazardous ingredients from cigarettes to the extent that it becomes scientifically feasible; and
- Prohibit health claims about reduced risk products that are not scientifically proven or that would discourage current tobacco users from quitting or encourage persons to begin using tobacco products.

S. 625, which has 49 cosponsors, was introduced on February 15, 2007, and is scheduled for mark-up in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee on July 18, 2007. H.R. 1108, which has 188 cosponsors, also was introduced on February 15, 2007, and was referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has not yet scheduled any action on the bill. The legislation is supported by numerous health organizations, including the National Association of County and City Health Officials, American Public Health Association, American Cancer Society, and American Medical Association. The County's Department of Public Health recommends support for these bills because unregulated tobacco products endanger the public's health.

Because there is no existing Board policy relating to whether the FDA should regulate tobacco products, support for S. 625 and H.R. 1108 is a matter for Board policy determination.

DEJ:GK
MAL:MT:lm

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Department of Public Health